

State of Wisconsin Jim Doyle, Governor

Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction Elizabeth Burmaster, State Superintendent



****NEWS RELEASE****

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DPI 2007-114

Tuesday, November 6, 2007

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Wisconsin schools encouraged to apply for school health awards

Application deadline for 2007-08 award is March 14

MADISON—Gov. Jim Doyle and State Superintendent Elizabeth Burmaster are encouraging schools that promote healthy eating, physical activity, alcohol- and drug-free lifestyles, and parental and community involvement to apply for a Governor's School Health Award.

"Schools in Wisconsin work hard to create healthy environments that contribute to student success," said Doyle. "I am pleased to recognize schools for their efforts to educate students, school staff members, and families on how to make healthy choices that last a lifetime."

"We know that what students learn in the classroom is reinforced by what happens in the gymnasium, cafeteria, at home, and in the community," said Burmaster. "School health award winners are improving their students' long-term nutritional and physical health. Healthier students support healthier communities, which in turn support a healthier Wisconsin."

The school health award application consists of six sections, with each one focusing on an area related to school health. The sections are: School Policies and Management, Physical Education and Physical Activity, Healthy Eating and Nutrition Education, Alcohol-, Tobacco-, and Drug-Free Lifestyles, Parent and School Partnerships, and Staff Wellness.

Interested schools have until March 14, 2008, to apply for the 2007-08 awards. Schools should preregister for the program via the web at http://www.schoolhealthaward.wi.gov, assemble a team to review the school's health initiatives, and then complete and submit the award application.

A review panel from the departments of Health and Family Services and Public Instruction and the Governor's Council on Physical Fitness and Health will evaluate the applications and recommend awards at the bronze, silver, and gold levels.

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